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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY

Baltic Republics/USSR

SUBJECT

Russification

DATE:

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INFO.

DISTRO May 1947

PAGES

SUPPLEMENT

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ORIGIN

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Latvia

- There were 322,834 voters registered for the 1947 elections in Riga. This number indicates an influx of 100,000 to 200,000 persons, probably Russians, since the total 1939 population was only 393,000 and this number has been greatly reduced by repatriation of the German minority, war losses, and emigration.
- 2. According to an official Russian amouncement, the first kolkhoz in Latvia was established in Movember 1946 in the Jelgava District. From this it can be assumed that, in regard to the establishment of collectivist Baltic agriculture, the Russians have overcome the hesitancy which they exhibited during their first occupation (1940-41) and in the first two years of the second occupation.

Estonia

- 5. At the 1947 elections in Estonia 804,000 voters were registered. Nevertheless, on the basis of the latest census and population losses through war and emigration, the number of voters would be less than 600,000 (1941 census: 1,017,811; proportion of population over 18 years of age during Estonian independence: about 60%; war and emigration losses: 70,000). It can therefore be inferred that some 200,000 non-Estonians, probably Russians, of woting age were residing in Estonia in February 1947. A further indication of such a possibility is the composition of the Estonian Supreme Soviet in March 1947, in which each 10,000 inhabitants have a delegate. Eighty-two Estonian and seventeen Russian delegates would indicate 820,000 Estonian and 170,000 Russian citizens of Estonia.
- 4. The number of inhabitants in Tallinn was given officially as 176,000 on 1 January 1946. This number, when compared with the 114,866 inhabitants in 1942 and with the considerable losses of population through war and emigration, indicates a strong Bussian influx, even if the incorporation of Romme (20,000 inhabitante) into Tallinn is taken into account.
- 5. The town of Marva, which was practically deserted because of the damage it suffered during the war, is being repeopled with Russians. By October 1946 the population had dwindled to about 2,000, mostly Bussians. This number has since been increased. The local daily paper "Marvski Rabotshi" is printed in Russian. So far as can be ascertained, all prominent people in Marva are Russian. The local secretary of Communist Youth is Sadoshnikov.
- 6. Russian schools have been established in Tallinn, Haapsalu, Kärdla, and Keila.

CLASSIFICATION

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7. The following prominent Estonians were arrested and deported by the Russians early in 1947:

Luik former burgomester of Tartu

Dr. Annist ... occupation not known

8. There is a camp for political prisoners in Nomme. Prisoners are forced to work in a limestone pit and the usual term is four to five years.

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